



✓ Latest release

Participation, Job Search and Mobility, Australia

Labour participation potential, underemployment and job attachment, job search experience, labour mobility, hours worked, industry and occupation.

Reference period February 2024

Released 9/07/2024

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Key statistics

In February 2024:

- 1.9 million people were not working but wanted to work
- Job mobility decreased to 8% for the first time in 3 years
- The annual retrenchment rate was 1.7%, an increase from 1.4% in February 2023
- Of the 14.5 million employed people in May 2024, 1.7 million were underemployed.

 Feedback

Topics

Statistics from the Participation, Job Search and Mobility (PJS) survey are published in three topic-based releases.

- [Potential workers](#) (/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/potential-workers/latest-release)
- [Job mobility](#) (/statistics/labour/jobs/job-mobility/latest-release)
- [Underemployed workers](#) (/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/underemployed-workers/latest-release)

Microdata and Tablebuilder

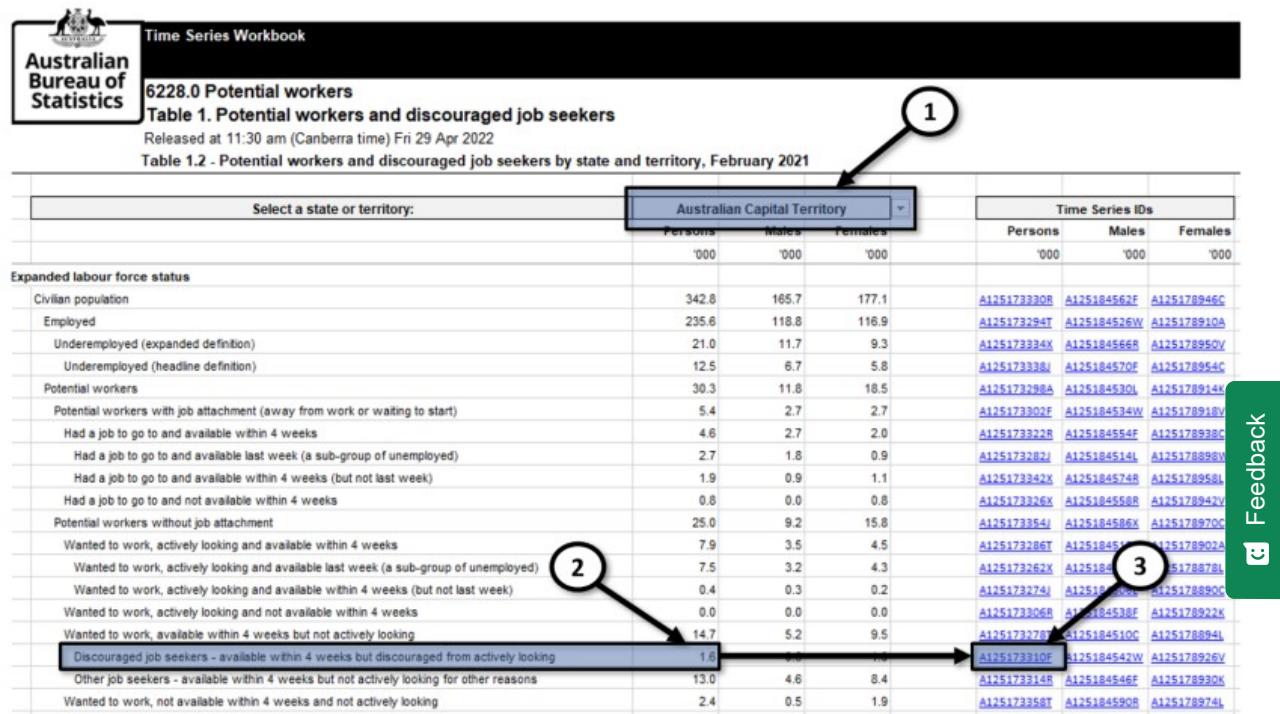
Microdata from the PJS survey for 2015 to 2024 is available in [TableBuilder](#) (/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/tablebuilder) and [DataLab](#) (/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/datalab) (as a supplementary file to the [Longitudinal Labour Force](#) (/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia)). For more information, refer to [Microdata and TableBuilder: Participation, Job Search and Mobility](#) (/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/participation-job-search-and-mobility-australia).

A detailed data item list for the PJSM microdata is available in [Microdata and TableBuilder: Participation, Job Search and Mobility \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/participation-job-search-and-mobility-australia\)](#).

Data downloads

How to use tables

1. Select a state or territory
2. The estimates shown in the table are for the most recent time period (February 2024)
3. The corresponding Time Series ID links to series of annual estimates for earlier time periods (2015 to 2023)



Time Series Workbook

6228.0 Potential workers

Table 1. Potential workers and discouraged job seekers

Released at 11:30 am (Canberra time) Fri 29 Apr 2022

Table 1.2 - Potential workers and discouraged job seekers by state and territory, February 2021

Select a state or territory: Australian Capital Territory

| | Persons | Males | Females | Time Series IDs | | |
|--|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| Expanded labour force status | | | | | | |
| Civilian population | 342.8 | 165.7 | 177.1 | A125173330R | A125184562F | A125178946C |
| Employed | 235.6 | 118.8 | 116.9 | A125173294T | A125184526W | A125178910A |
| Underemployed (expanded definition) | 21.0 | 11.7 | 9.3 | A125173334X | A125184566R | A125178950V |
| Underemployed (headline definition) | 12.5 | 6.7 | 5.8 | A125173338U | A125184570F | A125178954C |
| Potential workers | 30.3 | 11.8 | 18.5 | A125173298A | A125184530L | A125178914K |
| Potential workers with job attachment (away from work or waiting to start) | 5.4 | 2.7 | 2.7 | A125173302F | A125184534W | A125178918V |
| Had a job to go to and available within 4 weeks | 4.6 | 2.7 | 2.0 | A125173322R | A125184554F | A125178938C |
| Had a job to go to and available last week (a sub-group of unemployed) | 2.7 | 1.8 | 0.9 | A125173282J | A125184514L | A125178898W |
| Had a job to go to and available within 4 weeks (but not last week) | 1.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 | A125173342X | A125184574R | A125178958L |
| Had a job to go to and not available within 4 weeks | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.8 | A125173326X | A125184558R | A125178942V |
| Potential workers without job attachment | 25.0 | 9.2 | 15.8 | A125173354J | A125184586X | A125178970C |
| Wanted to work, actively looking and available within 4 weeks | 7.9 | 3.5 | 4.5 | A125173286T | A125184515L | A125178878L |
| Wanted to work, actively looking and available last week (a sub-group of unemployed) | 7.5 | 3.2 | 4.3 | A125173262X | A125184506L | A125178890C |
| Wanted to work, actively looking and available within 4 weeks (but not last week) | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | A125173274J | A125184508X | A125178890C |
| Wanted to work, actively looking and not available within 4 weeks | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | A125173306R | A125184538F | A125178922K |
| Wanted to work, available within 4 weeks but not actively looking | 14.7 | 5.2 | 9.5 | A125173278J | A125184510C | A125178894L |
| Discouraged job seekers - available within 4 weeks but discouraged from actively looking | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.0 | A125173310F | A125184542W | A125178926V |
| Other job seekers - available within 4 weeks but not actively looking for other reasons | 13.0 | 4.6 | 8.4 | A125173314R | A125184546F | A125178930K |
| Wanted to work, not available within 4 weeks and not actively looking | 2.4 | 0.5 | 1.9 | A125173358T | A125184590R | A125178974L |

Potential workers

[Download all \(18.05 MB\)](#)

Table 1. Potential workers and discouraged job seekers

[Download XLSX](#)
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Table 2. Characteristics of discouraged job seekers and other potential workers

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[4.29 MB]

Table 3. Duration since last job and main activity of discouraged job seekers and other potential workers

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[3.88 MB]

Table 4. Main reason for not actively looking for work of persons who wanted to work and were available

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[530.5 KB]

Table 4a. Reasons did not actively look for work

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[1.7 MB]

Table 5. Job search experience of unemployed persons

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[1.04 MB]

Table 6. Characteristics of successful and unsuccessful job search experience

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[1.21 MB]

Table 7. Number of job offers while looking for work

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[2.76 MB]

Table 8. Main difficulty and duration of job search of unemployed persons

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[2.94 MB]

Table 9. Main difficulty in finding work by age of unemployed persons

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[2 MB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 1 to 9

[↓ Download ZIP](#)

[13.31 MB]

Job mobility

[↓ Download all \(11.58 MB\)](#)



Table 1. Labour mobility, retrenchments and duration of employment

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[556.2 KB]

Table 2. Retrenchments and other reasons for ceasing a job last year

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[3.09 MB]

Table 3. Changes in employment characteristics of people employed last year

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[975.36 KB]

Table 4. Separations and other changes in employment of people employed last year by industry

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[2.73 MB]

Table 5. Engagements and other changes in employment of people employed last year by industry

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[2.7 MB]

Table 6. Separations and other changes in employment of people employed last year by occupation

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[1.8 MB]

Table 7. Engagements and other changes in employment of people employed last year by occupation

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[1.74 MB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 1 to 7

[↓ Download ZIP](#)

[9.85 MB]

Underemployed workers

[↓ Download all \(6.85 MB\)](#)

Table 1. Cyclical and structural underemployment of full-time and part-time workers

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[1.38 MB]

Table 2. Extended measures of underutilisation

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[214.91 KB]

Table 3. Underemployment status of full-time and part-time workers

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[220.85 MB]

Table 4. Part-time workers who prefer more hours

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[296.92 KB]

Table 5. Characteristics of part-time workers who prefer more hours

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[1.06 MB]

Table 6. Duration of insufficient hours of underemployed part-time workers

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[2.25 MB]

Table 7. Number of extra weekly hours preferred by underemployed part-time workers

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[1.99 MB]

Table 8. Main difficulty in finding more work of underemployed part-time workers

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[614.75 MB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 2 to 8

[↓ Download ZIP](#)

[4.28 MB]

Microdata and TableBuilder

[↓ Download all \(798.91 KB\)](#)

Table 1. Populations

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[563.32 MB]

Relative standard errors, Table 1

[↓ Download XLSX](#)

[399.56 MB]

 Feedback

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6226.0* (and 6226.0.55.001 in 2014).

Prior to 2014, statistics were published in:

- [Labour Mobility \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6209.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Mobility,%20Australia~February%202013~Latest~21/08/2013&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6209.0&issue=February%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6209.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Mobility,%20Australia~February%202013~Latest~21/08/2013&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6209.0&issue=February%202013&num=&view=&)) (6209.0), 1972-2013.
- [Persons Not in the Labour Force \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6220.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Not%20in%20the%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/03/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6220.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6220.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Not%20in%20the%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/03/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6220.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&)) (6220.0), 1975-2013.
- [Job Search Experience \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6222.0&viewtitle=Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~July%202013~Latest~05/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6222.0&issue=July%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6222.0&viewtitle=Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~July%202013~Latest~05/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6222.0&issue=July%202013&num=&view=&)) (6222.0), 1976-2013.
- [Underemployed workers \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6265.0&viewtitle=Underemployed%20Workers,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6265.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6265.0&viewtitle=Underemployed%20Workers,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6265.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&)) (6265.0), 1985-2013.
- [Labour Force Experience \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6206.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Force%20Experience,%20Australia~Feb%202011~Latest~31/08/2011&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6206.0&issue=Feb%202011&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6206.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Force%20Experience,%20Australia~Feb%202011~Latest~31/08/2011&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6206.0&issue=Feb%202011&num=&view=&)) (6206.0), 1968-2011.
- [Career Experience \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6254.0&viewtitle=Career%20Experience,%20Australia~Nov%202002~Latest~22/09/2003&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6254.0&issue=Nov%202002&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6254.0&viewtitle=Career%20Experience,%20Australia~Nov%202002~Latest~22/09/2003&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6254.0&issue=Nov%202002&num=&view=&)) (6254.0), 1993-2002.
- [Retrenchment and Redundancy \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6266.0&viewtitle=Retrenchment%20and%20Redundancy,%20Australia~Jul%202001~Latest~02/08/2002&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6266.0&issue=Jul%202001&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6266.0&viewtitle=Retrenchment%20and%20Redundancy,%20Australia~Jul%202001~Latest~02/08/2002&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6266.0&issue=Jul%202001&num=&view=&)) (6266.0), 1997-2001.
- [Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6245.0&viewtitle=Successful%20and%20Unsuccessful%20Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~Jul%202000~Latest~06/06/2001&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6245.0&issue=Jul%202000&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6245.0&viewtitle=Successful%20and%20Unsuccessful%20Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~Jul%202000~Latest~06/06/2001&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6245.0&issue=Jul%202000&num=&view=&)) (6245.0), 1982-2000.
- [Persons Who Had Re-entered The Labour Force \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6264.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Had%20Re-entered%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Jul%201995~Latest~01/02/1996&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6264.0&issue=Jul%201995&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6264.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Had%20Re-entered%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Jul%201995~Latest~01/02/1996&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6264.0&issue=Jul%201995&num=&view=&)) (6264.0), 1985-1995.
- [Persons Who Have Left The Labour Force \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6267.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Have%20Left%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Sep%201994~Latest~02/04/1995&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6267.0&issue=Sep%201994&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6267.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Have%20Left%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Sep%201994~Latest~02/04/1995&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6267.0&issue=Sep%201994&num=&view=&)) (6267.0), 1985-1994.
- [\(https://archive.org/details/australian-statistics?and%5B%5D=subject%3A%22Labour+Turnover%22&sort=-date\)](https://archive.org/details/australian-statistics?and%5B%5D=subject%3A%22Labour+Turnover%22&sort=-date)) (6210.0), 1949-1976.

Feedback 

* Note: Catalogue number 6226.0 was previously used for [School Leavers, 1970 to 1974: their Employment Status and Education Experience \(https://archive.org/details/school-leavers-1970-to-1974-their-employment-status-and-education-experience\)](https://archive.org/details/school-leavers-1970-to-1974-their-employment-status-and-education-experience), May 1975.

Methodology

[Participation, Job Search and Mobility, Australia methodology, February 2024](#)

 Feedback